

**Catherine Ward
2917 Caymen Lane
Belvidere, Il. 61008
815-978-8029**

April 11, 2016

**Dave Navecky
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001**

Good Morning,

As a 14-year veteran of the Boone County Board, Belvidere, Il. I respectfully request a year-long postponement of any decisions regarding the Great Lakes Basin Railroad Project through Boone County.

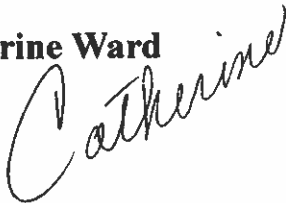
We have lived in Boone County for 50 years and I have never seen any project that would cause as much harm to our county as this proposed route.

We need at least a year to determine the adverse effects of the environmental impact on our land, the harmful effects our extremely valuable water supplies under our county, the serious ramifications of the loss of our precious farmland, the dangerous health and safety effects of this rail crossing 32 of our county roads and the extremely detrimental effects to the property value loss of hundreds and hundreds of our farmers and residents.

We have had meetings in our county packed with our residents asking us to do all we can to "Stop the Train" coming through our county and at the very least make sure any decision is delayed until it can be properly analyzed.

Regards,

Catherine Ward

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine".

Ward
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